



## North Halifax Grammar School – A Level Transition Work

### FINE ART: ADVANCED LEVEL

**Specification:** <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/specification-at-a-glance>

**Course content:** <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/subject-content/fine-art>

Reading recommendations:

#### Books

- Vitamin P New perspectives in painting
- Art the definitive visual guide
- Art and Fear: Observations on the Perils (and Rewards) of Artmaking by David Bayles
- How to Survive and Prosper as an Artist-Selling yourself without Selling your Soul by Caroll Michels
- This is Modern Art by Matthew Collings
- Ways of Seeing by John Berger
- Understanding and Investigating Art by Rod Taylor published by Hodder and Stoughton
- Art Now (vol. 3 ) by Hans Werner Holzwarth published by Taschen
- The Thames and Hudson Dictionary of Art and Artists by Herbert Read and Nikos Stangos
- The Shock of the New by Robert Hughes (Book)
- The Power of Art - (Book/DVD)
- Arteffects by Jean Drysdale Green
- The Encyclopaedia of Acrylic Techniques by Hazel Harrison
- Sources of Inspiration for Ceramic and the Applied Arts by Carolyn Genders

#### Magazines/Journals

- Modern Painters -brilliant monthly magazine devoted to painting, only interviews with painters and exhibition reviews. [www.modernpainters.co.uk](http://www.modernpainters.co.uk)
- The Photographers' Magazine
- Printmaking Today- published by Cello Press, four issues per year [www.cello.press](http://www.cello.press). All aspects of
- Printmaking covered with interviews, exhibition reviews, competitions etc...
- AN Magazine (Artist's Newsletter) - [www.a-n.co.uk](http://www.a-n.co.uk). The artists' must have magazine. Stimulating and supporting contemporary visual arts practice. Offering lots of major art competitions to enter, job opportunities etc. Website offers lots of publications on how to promote yourself as an artist, how to apply for funding to continue projects etc...
- Time Out- Excellent weekly magazine listing current art craft and design exhibitions at all the major museums and galleries as well as student shows and lesser known galleries. Available in all newsagents. [www.timeout.com](http://www.timeout.com)



## North Halifax Grammar School – A Level Transition Work

Galleries, exhibition spaces, permanent exhibitions

Larger galleries and museum spaces, all with permanent exhibitions:

- The Tate Modern- Modern and Contemporary art
- The Tate Britain- British Art
- The Victoria and Albert Museum- Applied arts and design from around the world
- The Design Museum
- The National Gallery- painting
- The National Portrait Gallery- devoted to the art of the portrait
- The Royal Academy
- The British Museum- artefacts from around the world
- The Hayward Gallery
- Courtauld Gallery- devoted to Impressionist Painting
- The Wallace collection
- The Barbican

Contemporary Art Galleries with changing exhibitions:

- The White Cube
- The Saatchi Gallery
- The Lisson Gallery
- The Whitechapel Art Gallery
- The Crafts Council Gallery
- Cork Street Galleries- commercial art galleries on London's famous Cork Street
- The ICA (Institute of Contemporary Arts)
- Camden Arts Centre
- Serpentine Gallery
- The Photographers' Gallery, 16-18 Ramillies St. London W1F 7LW
- Frith Street Gallery
- Gagosian Gallery
- The Wellcome Institute- changing exhibitions containing arts that have a link to Science



## North Halifax Grammar School – A Level Transition Work

### Fine Art A-level: Summer research project

As part of your preparation for A-level study the Art Department would like you to complete a small journal recording your personal response to **one** of the following themes:

- Places
- Objects
- People

Select a theme and use this opportunity to make it **personal** to you. The aim of this project is not only for us to see your interests and style as an artist; it is also to get to know your personality. We have outlined below some ideas of what you should include in the journal, you can of course add more if something is particularly interesting to you.

**Photography** related to your theme – using a camera (anything from a DSLR to a camera 'phone) aiming to capture your subject and what you find interesting about it.

**Drawing activities** based around your subject – you could explore observational drawing, experimental drawing, line drawing, continuous line drawing using a variety of materials – e.g. pencil, fineliner, biro. This should also be on a variety of surfaces.

Images of 3-5 different **artist's works** that relate to your theme annotated to include the following information:

- WHAT do you find interesting about the work
- HOW could you use this as inspiration for your own work; what ideas does it give you? You could visit an Art Gallery – collect leaflets, postcards, photos for your journal.

The journal does not need to be a particular format this could be a sketchbook, notebook or a collection of different papers and surfaces – present this as you wish! We will be looking at these as a group during our introductory lesson so please ensure that you have these with you.

We look forward to seeing your journals and sharing your new creative journey!  
The NHGS Art Department.